National Law University

864. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish a National Law University;

(b) if so, what are its objectives and other details; and

(c) where its centres would be located throughout India?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) A proposal to establish a National Law University in National Capital Region (NCR) with its three National Centres in the Northern, Western, Eastern regions of the country on the pattern of the National Law School at Bangalore, with an enabling provision to create more such Centres, is under consideration of the Government.

Pending Cases in High Courts and Supreme Court

865. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pendency of cases in the High Courts and Supreme Court is increasing;

(b) the details of pending cases;

(c) the details of cases registered, disposed off and pending during 1998, 1999, and 2000; and

(d) the steps being taken to dispose off all cases within two or three years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) There is steep decline of pendency of cases in the Supreme Court of India over the years. The pendency of cases which was 1,04,936 as on 31.12.1991 has come down to 19,806 as on 31.10.98 and then slightly increased to 22,047 as on 28.2.2001.

The pendency of cases in High Courts has increased. The pendency of cases which was about 22 lakh in 1991 has increased to about 34.37

lakh cases by June, 2000. Details of pending cases in the Supreme Court and High Courts are given in the Statement which, *inter-alia,* shows the number of cases registered, disposed off and pending during 1998, 1999 and 2000 in the Supreme Court and High Courts. *(See* below)

(d) Since filing of cases in the courts is a continuous process, no fixed time frame can be specified for disposal of all pending cases. However, both the Government and the Judiciary are concerned with the quick disposal of pending cases. Various steps have been taken by the Government for speeding up the disposal of these cases. These include simplification of rules and procedure on the basis of the advice and recommendations of expert bodies like the Law Commission, the Malimath Committee etc. The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1999 and the Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2000, *inter-alia,* contain provisions for cutting short the delays and to fix a definite time frame at various stages of suit and civil proceedings. The Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs has been addressing the High Courts periodically for filling up of vacancies of judges in the High Courts and Subordinate Courts.

Government have decided to set up 1734 additional courts in the country on the basis of the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission. These courts are expected to serve as fast track courts for the expeditious disposal of long pending cases, priority being given to sessions cases and cases involving undertrials in jails.

Statement

Number of Cases Registered, Disposed-of and Pending in the Supreme Court and High Courts During the Year 1998, 1999 *and* 2000

Sl. No	Name of the Court	During the Year 1998			During the Year 1999			During the Year 2000			
		No. of cases registered	No. of cases disposed-of	No. of cases pending	No. of cases registered	No. of cases disposed-of	No. of cases pending	No. of cases registered	No. of cases disposed-of	No. of cases pending	
A.	SUPREME COURT	36559	35233	20358	34683	34707	20334	37111	35300	22145	
B.	HIGH COURTS										
1	Allahabad	183740	146579	796129	198071	179174	815026	34443	47672	818796	32000
2	Andhra Pradesh	157007	144367	145851	137437	133066	150222	57833	63891	155351	62000
3	Bombay	99789	84881	252526	111491	79814	284203	28567	22970	289800	32000
4	Calcutta	77543	64594	295158	67733	51977	310914	32730	25585	313172	62000
5	Delhi	71477	61887	173020	70874	65708	178186	NA	NA	NA	NA
6	Guwahati	21412	17540	38037	5030	4365	38702®	NA	NA	NA	NA
7	Gujarat	58571	56422	121532	73801	52059	**143274**	10959	12735	141498	32000
8	Himachal Pradesh	10870	9665	14557*	9882	9345	11928	5711	4219	13420	62000
9	J & K	28886	34275	93256	26441	49361	70336	10710	17010	64036	62000
10	Karnataka	75336	120653	90072	84951	90537	84486	45155	39872	89768	62000
11	Kerala	137549	103579	284231	149302	125296	308237	84514	69021	323730	62000
12	Madhya Pradesh	89139	78719	93551	92625	79883	106293	45499	37737	114057	62000
13	Madras	136331	121581	341369	143551	129538	355382	36588	38402	353568	32000
14	Orissa	54431	36926	102402	49010	34073	117339	11184	8949	119574	32000
15	Patna	103985	105833	82818	99605	99730	82697	102045	62869	85193	62000
16	Punjab & Haryana	132472	131306	171837	148871	135738	184970	72836	46737	211063	62000
17	Rajasthan	61613	52764	107265	63503	47879	122899	11190	10827	123262	32000
18	Sikkim	1076	699	472	485	751	206	332	329	209	62000
	TOTAL	1501227	1372270	3204083	1532663	1368294	3365300				

* The High Court of Himachal Pradesh (i.e.) after sending the reports has revised the figures to 11391 after physical verification of case files. @
figure of March, 1999.